Unclaimed Bikes on Block

"Going . . . going . . ." and on Saturday this pile of bicycles and another 50 more will be gone. Altogether about 70 bicycles, 14 tricycles go under auctioneer's hammer Saturday at 10 a.m. at city police station. All have been found, turned over to police and remained unclaimed for more than 12 months. Const. Keith Hollett makes sure one of them is eligible for sale.—(Colonist photo)

Crises of 1939, 1959 Parallel Frightening

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Current Berlin Situation Could Be Another Munich

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By NORMAN M. MACLEOD

WEST BERLIN (UPI) — The parallels that can be drawn between Western Europe's pre-war 1939 crisis and West Berlin's current 1959 crisis are so striking that they can be mildly frightening.

Here are some of them:

Everyone you talk to today in either the free or the Soviet areas of Berlin will tell you that war won't result from the present crisis, because crisis has become the normal way of life in Western Europe and this is merely another crisis.

(You can't help remembering the late Mackenzie King returning from Berlin in 1938 and telling the Canadian people that Hitler didn't intend war—or Neville Chamberlain proclaiming a few months later that Munich had gained us "peace in our time."

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Then, too, the present West Berlin situation is showing disturbing possibilities of developing into another Munich. The same emotional pressures for appeasement that made Munich a disaster are all too dangerously in evidence once more.

No one can have forgotten that Hitler in 1939 was proclaiming Germany's need for "lebenstraum"—living space—because of the pressure of German population. Well, in 1959, the density of German population in the Ruhr valley, greatest area of congestion as well as of concentration of industrial potential for peace or war in all Germany, is 440 persons per square kilometre. In 1939 it was only 275 persons per square kilometre.

Finally, although ordinary folk in 1939 didn't want war, you had a Hitler who designed it deliberately as an instrument for world domination. And in 1959, you have another dictator whose name is Khrushchev.

Hitherto, Khrushchev, like Hitler in his early days, has concentrated upon eliminating opposition on the home front. And like Hitler, the opposition that he has concentrated upon eliminating is the opposition of the moderates in the Moscow regime—the Bulganins, the Malenkovs, and the other apostles of peaceful co-existence. Significantly, it is only since his success in removing his rivals from the domestic political field that Khrushchev has turned his attention to the international scene and rattled his sword of threatened aggression.

In the face of the obvious parallels between the Hitler and the Khrushchev careers, the almost casual dismissal of the Soviet dictator by most people of West Germany as simply a poker player isn't easy to understand. But the true explanation seems to lie in the confident faith which this part of Europe reposes in Western power.

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There is a further factor in West Berlin and West German psychology. This is the fact that the German peoples have become almost pathetically used to crisis. You become confident that in some way the status quo will continue. It always has through past alarms. So why should this one be any different?

This attitude is worrying some West Berliners and some West Germans profoundly. But those who worry are in a vast minority.

Bandit Has Case For Suspension

BROADALBIN, N.Y. (UPI)—Would-be bandit Thomas Frasier, who nearly lost his pants in an attempt to hold up the Broadalbin bank, is in jail awaiting grand jury action.

Bank teller Mrs. Elizabeth Fuerst said a young man entered the bank and started to take change from the coin machine when his beltless trousers fell down around his ankles.

When Mrs. Fuerst shouted at him to drop the bag and get out the man pulled up his trousers and ran.

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$500,000 for Future Trouble

Integration Costly

WASHINGTON (UPI) The justice department has asked Congress for $500,000 to meet the cost of sending U.S. marshals to any area threatened with school integration troubles.

The department also is seeking an additional $390,000 to replenish regular funds which were used to pay for mobilizing the task force of federal law officers sent to Little Rock, Ark., in the integration dispute at Central High School there last fall.

Testimony released by a House appropriations subcommittee yesterday showed that department officials asked March 4 that the $500,000 emergency fund be made available immediately in case it is needed during the current school year.

The funds are included in an administration-sponsored $2,800,000,000 supplementary money bill on which the full House appropriations committee is scheduled to vote today.

Nine Negro students attended classes at Central High in the 1957-58 school term with federal troops on hand to assure their safety.

The troops were removed last summer and U.S. marshals dispatched there in September. The school never reported for the 1958-59 fall term, however, because of the new state laws which barred integration.

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Pow-Wow With Ike Refused

WASHINGTON (AP) — A colorful gathering of Indians marched in front of the White House for hours Thursday but failed to get an audience with President Eisenhower to ask redress for "bitter injustices."

The Indians, from the Six-Nations Confederacy, said they wanted to talk to the president about "a long and shameful record" of violations of U.S. treaties with the Indians, confiscated lands and destitution.

Indian Affairs Commissioner Glenn L. Emmons said these Indians are not under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs but have been under New York State for at least 100 years.

Dr. Fraser Funeral Yesterday

Funeral services for Dr. William Farquar Fraser, 81, a native of Victoria, were held yesterday at 1.15 p.m. in McCall's funeral home.

Dr. Fraser, who would have been 82 March 18, died at his home in Vernon, B.C. He practised dentistry in Victoria, Armstrong and Vernon.

He is survived by his widow, Ida; one daughter, Mrs. J. D. Wilson of Victoria; three sons, Schubert of Ottawa, Donald of Seattle, and Bruce of Vancouver.

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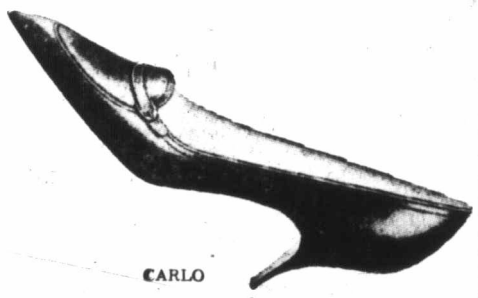

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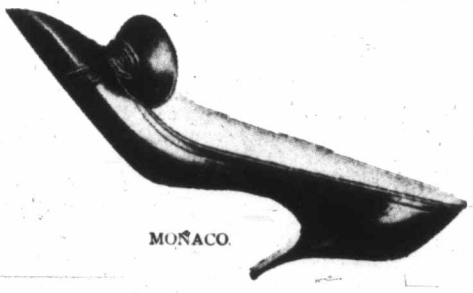

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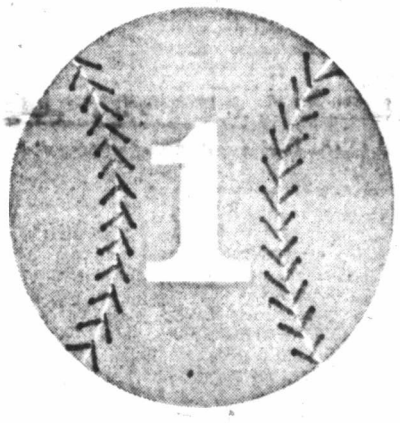

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